

ADULT SERVICES POLICY COUNCIL

Mission Statement: "Working together to meet the health and human service needs of adults and seniors."

Chair: Cindy Marie Absey, 781-5822, cabsey@co.slo.ca.us
Coordinator: Suzanne Heitzman, 772-6485, sheitzman@co.slo.ca.us

Members

Boards, Commissions and Community Groups

Adult Abuse Prevention Council
Commission on Aging
Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board
Health Commission
HIV Prevention, Advocacy and Care Consortium
Homeless Services Council
Medical Society of San Luis Obispo
Mental Health Board
SLO Supportive Housing Consortium

Non-Profit Agencies

AIDS Support Network
Area Agency on Aging
Arroyo Grande Community Hospital
Community Health Centers
Economic Opportunity Commission
French Hospital Medical Center
Hospice Partners of the Central Coast
HOTLINE
Independent Living Resource Center
Lifesteps Foundation
LTC Ombudsman
Senior Nutrition Program
Senior Peer Counseling
Senior Volunteer Services
Transitions/Mental Health Association
Tri-Counties Regional Center
United Way of San Luis Obispo

Private Organizations

Bates Care Case Management
Best Care
Gentiva Health Care Systems
Sierra Vista Medical Center
Twin Cities Community Hospital

Public Agencies

Housing Authority
IHSS Public Authority
San Luis County Departments of:
Behavioral Health / Drug and Alcohol
Services
Board of Supervisors
County Administrative Office
District Attorney / Victim Witness Assistance
Center
Probation
Public Health, Medical Services & Public
Guardian
Sheriff
Social Services
Veteran's Services

www.countyofslo.org/ASPC

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
2975 MCMILLAN ROAD SAN LUIS OBISPO
SUITE 164 (THE BIG CONFERENCE ROOM)
San Luis Obispo

Agenda

February 3, 2006
9:00 – 11:00 AM

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORRECTIONS / ADDITIONS TO THE SYNOPSIS

PUBLIC COMMENT—LIMIT TO 5 MINUTES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACTION Survey—Lillian Judd
Community Health Clinic—Operations: Larry Bacus;
Contract: Marsha Bollinger
Crisis Intervention Training—John Gannon
Disaster Preparedness—Evan Mendelson

ISSUE RESOLUTION PROCESS—Discussion and Action

ELECTION OF 2ND VICE CHAIR KAREN STENSON

INTERAGENCY RESOURCE TEAM— PROPOSAL TO CHANGE NAME
TO ADULT & AGING MULTI- DISCIPLINARY TEAM

TRUST SCAMS—VIDEO AND PRESENTATION BY
ANGIE KING & RAY MATTISON

Next meeting is March 3, 2006

9:00 – 11:00 AM
2975 McMillan Street
San Luis Obispo

P.O. Box 8119, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403-8119

**Adult Services Policy Council
SYNOPSIS February 3, 2006 MEETING**

NAME	AGENCY	Member/Guest
Absey, Cindy Marie	Victim / Witness Assistance, DA's Office	Member
Armanzio, Janet	Mental Health Services	Member
Bacus, Larry	Community Health Centers	Member
Basti, Martin	Sheriff's Department	Member
Bates, Meredith	Bates Care Management, Representative	Member
Brown, Tyler	San Luis Obispo Mental Health Board	Member
Chamousis, Penny	Public Health Department	Member
Cherry, Eve	Economic Opportunity Commission	Member
Crabaugh, Pam	Tri-Counties Regional Center	Member
Gannon, John Ph.D	Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board	Member
Hughes, Gary A.	Mental Health Board	Member
Johnson, Barry	Transitions – Mental Health Association	Member
Judd, Lillian	Economic Opportunity Commission	Member
Kahn, Edie	AIDS Support Network	Member
King, Angie	Adult Abuse Prevention Council	Member
lippman, joyce ellen	Area Agency on Aging	Member
McLean, Colleen	Commission on Aging	Member
Piepenburg, Michael	Veterans' Services	Member
Schmidt, Carol	Senior Peer Counseling	Member
Stenson, Karen	Long Term Care Ombudsman	Member
Travers, Ann	Adult Services, Department of Social Services	Member
White, Janet	Best Care	Member
Polay, Binah	Community Counseling Center	Guest
Miller, Mary	Ombudsman/EOC Safety Net Healthcare Access	Guest
Fellows, Kim	Probation Department	Guest
McCune, Lydia	Hospice of San Luis Obispo County	Guest
Thiesmeyer, Mja	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney	Guest
Heitzman, Suzanne	Adult Services Policy Council	Coordinator

INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Cindy Marie Absey - Introduced a new elder abuse prosecuting attorney from the District Attorney's office, Mja Thiesmeyer. Ms. Thiesmeyer has many years of experience in California in elder abuse prosecution.

Tyler Brown - Will be representing the Mental Health Advisory Board in the future.

Bina Poly is a guest from the Community Counseling Center.

Karen Stenson - The Ombudsman person has recruited new volunteers in the North County. Budget Reconciliation passed Congress and had major negative impact to vulnerable populations, low income and poor.

Carol Schmidt - Senior Peer Council started training for volunteers.

Suzanne Heitzman - Announced that this is her last meeting as Policy Council Coordinator. She is retiring from County employment effective March 3, 2006.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES - None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Action Survey - Lillian Judd, Economic Opportunity Council.

This is the 3rd report for the Action for Healthy Committees. The first report was published in 1999 and is published every other year. The report will be published in 2007 and is currently in development. The Policy Council (Lillian!) has been instrumental in encouraging gathering of information from the disenfranchised - homeless and homebound adults. The Policy Council is the body that conducts the face-to-face interviews with individuals who are homebound. The report is available on the United Way website (www.unitedwayslo.org.) Some members of the Policy donate funds to support the project, such as the County, DSS, and AAA. We will distribute copies of the survey instrument to the members of the Policy Council through email, for your review and comment.

Community Health Clinic - Marsha Bollinger

The County's clinical lab is closing. The Board of Supervisors voted to take the action. She and Larry Bacus are working to ensure there is a smooth transition after its closure.

The CHC has continued to meet its performance standards. There is a process in place to handle complaints, and the key to its success is that complaints be addressed promptly. If you know of a patient or client who has an issue, they should call Larry Bacus, Mary Miller (Patient Ombudsman), or the clinic manager.

Larry Bacus: The patient survey is a tool to determine patient satisfaction. They are looking forward to getting the results and analyzing the outcomes.

The Oceano clinic is up and running. It is next to the La Cienega market.

CHCCC has a new dental director on staff, and is looking forward to expanding dental care services.

The next Patient Advocate Meeting is Wednesday, February 8, 2006 at 12:00 pm at the Medical Society.

Crisis Intervention Training - Dr. Gannon

Dr. Gannon said the group did not meet in December due to a strong Christmas spirit, and could not meet in January since they were recovering from the spirit. They were also emailed challenged. These challenges have all been overcome and the group will be scheduling a meeting soon.

Disaster Preparedness - Evan Mendelson.

Suzanne Heitzman gave Evan's report, as Evan was unable to be present. This group will have its first meeting February 16, 2006.

ISSUE RESOLUTION PROCESS

The proposed, revised, issue resolution process was distributed for review and comment. One suggestion was to incorporate a process for issues that need immediate attention. The Executive Committee will add some language to that effect.

ELECTION OF 2ND VICE CHAIR – Karen Stenson

Our current 2nd vice chair, Rick Cohen, has accepted a position at Big Brother/Big Sisters and will not be participating in Policy Council in the future. (Since they are an organization geared to children.) Karen Stenson has stepped up and offered to be the 2nd vice-chair. There was a discussion if anyone else would also be interested in accepting the position. There were no other interested parties. John Gannon made a motion to have the Chair appoint Karen when Rick's formal resignation is received, AND Meredith Bates seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Suzanne will contact Rick to request that he submit an official resignation.

INTERAGENCY RESOURCE TEAM—PROPOSAL TO CHANGE NAME TO ADULT & AGING MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM - Ann Travers

The Interagency Resource Team (IRT) would like to change its name. The concept of IRT is not a familiar term and not understood in the community. They are proposing to change is to the "Adult & Aging Multi-Disciplinary Team" because MDT is well known in professional circles.

Motion: Angie King moves to approve the name change; Joyce Ellen Lippman seconds. Motion carried.

TRUST SCAMS—VIDEO AND PRESENTATION BY ANGIE KING & RAY MATTISON

There are many fraudulent schemes to abscond with elders' funds. Ray Mattison is a local attorney who is the lead attorney on a class action lawsuit against insurance companies that have been involved with financial transactions against elder people.

A video was played from the State of California about this subject. Some of the key items were:

1. Have an independent expert review the contract before it is signed, such as a lawyer or an accountant.
2. If the representatives from the company urge you to sign documents quickly, that is a red flag.
3. If they discourage you from discussing the transaction with someone else, that is a red flag.
4. Using someone that is an objective 3rd party, who does not collect a commission to advise you, is recommended, and a CPA or an attorney is preferred. A CPA might be in a better position (per Mr. Mattison) than an attorney, as they are more trained in financial matters than attorneys.

Some other key points are: An annuity is generally not a good investment for an elder person. There is usually a huge surrender fee in the first year, as much as 25%. Some annuities cannot be liquidated for 10-15 years. There are cases of individuals in their 70's, 80's, and 90's being sold annuities that cannot be liquidated for 10-15 years. In some cases, only 80% of the funds will be released upon death. Two companies to be concerned about: *American Investors Life*, and *North Western Life*. A web site with information about annuities is: www.annuitytruth.org.

There is controversy about the advantages of long term care insurance. Some of the cons are: the cost of the premiums goes up. What might seem cost effect at age 55 (\$800/year) will go up to as much \$5,000/year at age 68. The insurance might not be needed until age 75 or 80, so the amount paid in over a life time might have been better set aside in a different type of investment. Other members of the Council shared other tales: it takes a nightmare amount of paperwork to access the benefit. The other problem is the rate paid for benefits is often inadequate, not covering costs.

**NEXT MEETING: March 3, 2005
9:00 am to 11:00 am
2975 McMillan St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401**